

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for facilitating extensible markup language (XML) enabled information management system (IMS) transactions, comprising:
 - receiving at least one XML input request at an IMS connect program;
 - creating an input request byte array from the at least one XML input request within the IMS connect program; and
 - transmitting the input request byte array from the IMS connect program to an IMS application program.
2. A method as in Claim 1, further comprising:
 - generating at least one output response byte array within the IMS application program;
 - transmitting the at least one output response byte array to the IMS connect program; and
 - creating an XML output response from the at least one output response byte array within the IMS connect program.
3. A method as in Claim 2, further comprising:
 - transmitting the XML output response to at least one user computer connected to the IMS connect program.
4. A method as in Claim 1, wherein the IMS connect program includes a XML processor, and the method further comprises:
 - transmitting the at least one XML input request to a queue header within the XML processor;
 - retrieving an XML input request control block from the queue header by an XML server within the XML processor;
 - invoking an XML adapter routine within the IMS connect program;

- invoking a data transformer;
parsing and translating the at least one XML input request to create an input request byte array; and
transmitting the input request byte array to the XML server.
5. A method as in Claim 4, further comprising:
transmitting the input request byte array from the XML server to an IMS application program; and
at least partially based on the input request byte array, generating an output response byte array.
6. A method as in Claim 5, further comprising:
transmitting the output response byte array to the queue header within the XML processor;
retrieving an output response control block from the queue header by the XML server within the XML processor;
invoking an XML adapter routine within the IMS connect program;
invoking a data transformer;
parsing and translating the output response byte array to create an XML output response; and
transmitting the XML output response to the user computer.
7. A system for facilitating XML enabled IMS transactions, comprising:
at least one mainframe server;
at least one IMS connect program residing in the mainframe server;
at least one IMS application program residing in the mainframe server, the IMS application program responsive to the IMS connect program;

wherein the IMS connect program includes logic to:

receive at least one XML input request;

create an input request byte array from the XML input request; and

transmit the input request byte array to the IMS application program.

8. A system as in Claim 7, further comprising:
at least one XML processor within the IMS connect program;
at least one queue header within the XML processor; and
at least one XML server within the XML processor.
9. A system as in Claim 8, further comprising:
an XML initialization routine within the IMS connect program;
wherein the XML initialization routine is invocable by the XML server.
10. A system as in Claim 9, further comprising:
an XML adapter routine within the IMS connect program;
wherein the XML adapter routine is invocable by the XML server.
11. A system as in Claim 10, further comprising:
an XML terminator routine within the IMS connect program;
wherein the XML terminator routine is invocable by the XML server.
12. A system as in Claim 11, further comprising:
a PL/I transformer within the IMS connect program;
wherein the PL/I transformer is invocable by the XML adapter routine.
13. A system as in Claim 12, further comprising:
a COBOL transformer within the IMS connect program;
wherein the COBOL transformer is invocable by the XML adapter routine.

14. A system as in Claim 13, further comprising:
 - a C transformer within the IMS connect program;
 - wherein the C transformer is invocable by the XML adapter routine.
15. A system as in Claim 14, further comprising:
 - a message format services (MFS) transformer within the IMS connect program;
 - wherein the MFS transformer is invocable by the XML adapter routine.
16. A system as in Claim 15, further comprising:
 - a high level assembler (HLASM) transformer within the IMS connect program;
 - wherein the HLASM transformer is invocable by the XML adapter routine.
17. A system as in Claim 16, further comprising:
 - a roll-your-own (RYO) transformer within the IMS connect program;
 - wherein the RYO transformer is invocable by the XML adapter routine.
18. A system as in Claim 17, further comprising:
 - an XML metadata interchange (XMI) repository within the mainframe server, the XMI repository being accessible by the MFS transformer.
19. A system as in Claim 18, wherein the IMS connect program includes an XML processor and at least one data transformer, and the IMS connect program further includes logic to:
 - transmit the XML input request to the queue header;
 - retrieve an XML input request control block from the queue header by the XML server;
 - invoke the XML adapter routine;
 - invoke the at least one data transformer;

- parse and translate the XML input request to create an input request byte array;
and
transmit the input request byte array to the XML server.
20. A system as in Claim 19, wherein the IMS connect program further includes logic to:
transmit the input request byte array from the XML server to the IMS application program; and
at least partially based on the input request byte array, generate an output response byte array.
21. A system as in Claim 20, wherein the IMS connect program further includes logic to:
receive an output response byte array from the IMS application program;
transmit the output response byte array to the queue header;
retrieve an output response control block from the queue header by the XML server;
invoke the XML adapter routine;
invoke the data transformer;
parse and translate the output response byte array to create an XML output response; and
transmit the XML output response to a user computer.
22. A computer program device for facilitating XML enabled IMS transactions between at least one user computer and at least one IMS application program, the computer program device comprising logic to:
receive at least one XML input request from the user computer;
create an input request byte array from the XML input request; and
transmit the input request byte array to an IMS application program.

23. A computer program device as in Claim 22, further comprising logic to:
receive at least one output response byte array from the IMS application program;
and
create an XML output response from the output response byte array.
24. A computer program device as in Claim 23, further comprising logic to:
transmit the XML output response to the user computer.
25. A computer program device as in Claim 22, further comprising logic to:
transmit the XML input request to a queue header;
retrieve an XML input request control block from the queue header;
invoke an XML adapter routine;
invoke a data transformer;
parse and translate the XML input request to create an input request byte array;
and
transmit the input request byte array to an XML server.
26. A computer program device as in Claim 25, further comprising logic to:
transmit the input request byte array from the XML server to an IMS application
program; and
receive an output response byte array from the IMS application program.

27. A computer program device as in Claim 26, further comprising logic to:
transmit the output response byte array to the queue header;
retrieve an output response control block from the queue header;
invoke an XML adapter routine;
invoke a data transformer;
parse and translate the output response byte array to create an XML output
response; and
transmit the XML output response to the user computer.